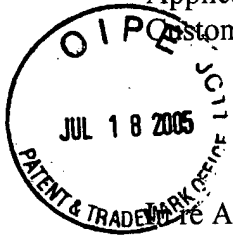


Docket No. 59474.21501
Application No. 09/627,018
Customer No. 30734

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Re Application of:) Confirmation No.: 9975
)
Helmut WEBER et al.) Group Art Unit: 3731
)
Application No.: 09/627,018) Examiner: Michael H. Thaler
)
Filed: July 27, 2000)
)
For: CONVERTIBLE RONGEUR)

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action mailed March 29, 2005, to which a response is due with an extension by July 29, 2005, Applicants hereby files a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Please amend and reconsider the above-identified patent application as follows. Entry of the following amendments and remarks are respectfully requested since they are believed to place the application in condition for allowance or in better condition for appeal and are fully responsive to the final Office Action mailed March 29, 2005.

Please reconsider the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this document.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.